Sun-Tribune

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STOUFFVILLE MEN CHARGED

Teens, girl sexually assaulted: police

BY JOE FANTAUZZI

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Two men charged after police were told about sexual assaults in Whitchurch-Stouffville and Markham are to appear in court again Friday.

York Regional Police were told sexual assaults occurred in Whitchurch-Stouffville and Markham after young people were befriended and went to homes located in those towns, said sexual assault unit Det.-Const. Joe Willmets.

York police investigators were told three male youths were sexually assaulted by a man. Investigators were told the youths were 14, 15 and 17 when the incidents began in 2007.

Police have also linked a sexual assault against a girl who was five years old between December 1999 and March 2000 to the same man.

Investigators were also told a boy was sexually assaulted by a man in 2009. The boy was 15 at the time.

Police were told the incidents occurred at homes in the Whitchurch-Stouffville and

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FESTIVAL WEEK



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Ella Passafiume, 3, holds up a basket of Stouffville's finest as she and her siblings, Eden, 7 (left), Elora, 9, and Evan, 5, pick stawberries at their family's Applewood Farm Winery on McCowan Road Tuesday. There will be plenty of berries at this week's Strawberry Festival in downtown Stouffville.

35,000 coming over for strawberries

BY SANDRA BOLAN sbolan@yrmg.com

More than 35,000 people are expected to descend upon Stouffville's downtown area starting today through to Sunday to celebrate the almighty strawberry.

"It's the town's largest event for the year and it's probably one of York Region's last remaining free festivals," said Kristina Toomey, event co-ordinator for the 26th annual Whitchurch-Stouffville Strawberry Festival.

The schedule gets underway at 11 a.m. today with the opening of the carnival on Park Drive, petting zoo at Sangster's Grove and the Whitchurch-Stouffville Minor Hockey Association ball hockey

tournament on the Memorial Park tennis courts.

The Stouffville Lions' beef barbecue runs from 4:30 to 7 p.m. in the Memorial Park Pavilion. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$12.50 for seniors and children. About 1,000 people attend annually.

The People's Parade heads down Main Street at 5 p.m. The street will be closed to traffic from 4 to 6 p.m. in the downtown core.

At 6:30 p.m. the official opening ceremonies will take place at Memorial Park's marquee in the softball diamond. Included are presentations to the Sun-Tribune's citizen of the year, Joan Doble, and the

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